

LEADER.

ESDAY, FEBRUARY 1.

on the Recent Attempt at

President.

If no result has been achieved by the

recent mission of Mr. Blair to Richmond,

which promises immediate peace, it has

been such in the country that the

power of the rebel army is overthrown.

There are thousands of anxious patriots

whose hearts shrink naturally from

the vision of blood, and who do not want

another drop shed in this fearful civil war,

unless it is absolutely necessary. This

class of citizens were anxious that the

informal visit of Mr. Blair to Richmond

might show that the leaders of the rebellion

had, at length, been convinced at least of

the hopelessness, if not of the wickedness

of an attempt to continue the struggle.

They hoped that the series of disasters

which had fallen upon the Confederacy for

the last six months had carried conviction

and repentance to the hearts of the rebel

chiefs. They knew that great dissatisfaction

existed in the South; that some states

were almost on the verge of revolution

against the tyranny of Davis; that all

hopes of foreign aid had been abandoned,

and that their resources in men exhausted.

They therefore naturally concluded that

the time had probably come when the

mad, desperate struggle would be given up.

We believe that a large portion of the

North were of this class. Weary of shed-

ding blood, taking no delight in it, but

suffering it only as the highest duty of a

Christian patriot, their prayers went with

Mr. Blair that he might succeed in achiev-

ing a pacification that would be alike hon-

orable and satisfactory. We cannot but

look upon the efforts of Mr. Blair, there-

fore, as prompted by a large-hearted pa-

triotism and good sense, which will be ap-

preciated by his countrymen. To have

soured peace would have brought upon

him the greatest honors which a grateful

country could bestow. For him to have

ended this terrible war, would have added

another glory to a life already crowned

with many useful and honorable works.

His mission, however, has proved the re-

verse. It has established the fact that no

peace can yet be attained which does not

include, as one of its conditions, the recog-

nition of the independence of the Confed-

erate States. This, the man who have

stood by the Government from the day

when war was inaugurated at Charleston

down to this hour, who have given their

souls and brothers and their substance to

the righteous cause, cannot grant. Too

Death of Major David F. Cole.

The saddest and most frequent task which

the journalist of the present day has to

perform is to record the death of a brave

and faithful soldier. And when, besides

patriotism and courage, the fallen hero pos-

sessed every virtue that makes the

man, the task is doubly bitter. Such is our

sad duty in noticing the death of Major

David F. Cole, of the 10th U. S. C. I., at

Point of Rocks, four miles from Peters-

burg, on the 7th of January.

Major Cole was about twenty-eight years

of age at the time of his death. He was born

in New Hampshire, and was a graduate of

Dartmouth College, standing near the head

of his class, although he had entered college

with very little preparation. In the fall of

1862, he raised a company in Castleton,

Vermont, for the Twelfth Vermont Infantry

(nine months men) with whom he

served until the expiration of his term of

service. His brother officers in the regi-

ment speak of him in the highest terms as

a sterling man, and an assiduous, faithful

and courageous officer. His regiment was

in the brigade of General Stoughton, who,

as our readers will remember, was cap-

tured at his quarters, and soon after re-

signed. A difficulty between this officer and Major

Cole, arising from the drunkenness of the

former, caused the General to report

Captain Cole as incompetent to command a

company. He was ordered to Washing-

ton for an examination before the board,

which he passed with brilliant ability, so

pleasing his Division Commander, Major

General Casey, that the latter issued a

general order, complimentary to him,

which was read at the head of every regi-

ment in the brigade.

In the fall of 1863, soon after the expira-

tion of his term of service, he came to

this city and commenced the study of law

in the office of Williamson & Riddle. His

patriotic spirit would not rest quiet at

home when the country called, and though

most pleasantly situated in this city, he

was soon anxious to re-enter the service.

In January, 1865, he passed a splendid ex-

amination for a commission in a colored

regiment, and was appointed first-lieut-

enant. He was commended by Colonel

Revere, an old member of the original

Ellsworth Zouaves, and one of the best offi-

cers in the service. Colonel Revere testifies

that Major Cole's personal exertions did

much to educate the Kentuckians in the

subject of negro enlistments, and that his

services in raising the regiment were in-

valuable. After a short guerrilla cam-

The Third Anniversary of the Chris-

tian Commission.

The Christian Commission has been

holding its third Anniversary in Washing-

ton. The nations and statesmen of Eu-

rope may well wonder at the marvelous

power exhibited by the people in organiz-

ing such charitable agencies as the Chris-

tian Commission. It has been supposed her-

etofore that such work could only be accom-

plished by the agency of the government,

but the war has proved that a Democracy,

such as our own, can organize institutions

independent of government, and yet hav-

ing its character.

The total value realized for 1864, from

all sources, to the Christian Commission,

was \$2,882,747.85. In 1863 the value re-

alized amounted to \$2,016,827.65, and in

1862, to \$2,016,256.27. The entire receipts

have been, therefore, for the past three

years, \$4,905,441.89. During the past year

the Commission has received in the shape

of Hospital stores, donated to the central

and branch offices, \$1,169,608.37. The

American Bible Society donated Bibles

and Testaments to the extent of \$72,114.

83. The services of volunteer delegates

were estimated at \$169,326.00. The value

of railroad and other facilities donated to

the Commission is estimated at \$106,705.

00; of telegraphic facilities, at \$26,660.00;

and of warehouse and rents donated to

the Commission, \$6,650.00. As an illus-

tration of the work done by the Commis-

sion during the past year, the following

table is submitted:

GENERAL SUMMARY OF WORK AND DISTRI-

BUTION FOR 1864.

Boxes of hospital stores and publica-

tions distributed during the year, 47,108

Value of stores distributed, \$7,214,201.85

Value of publications distributed, 46,574.78

Value of stationery distributed, 25,531.71

Value of 300 chapters and chapel

books distributed during the year, 114,650.78

Copies of Bibles and Psalm Books

distributed during the year, 4,208,247

Copies of bond library books dis-

tributed during the year, 35,372

Copies of magazines and pamphlets

distributed during the year, 246,326

Copies of religious, weekly and

monthly newspapers distributed

during the year, 7,900,758

Copies of papers of tracts, 13,061,248

Service of delegates constantly

in field during the year, 2,817

No. of delegates now in the field, 219

Who can doubt, after this exhibit, the

remarkable extent of Christian labor in

Insurance.

The Washington Chronicle says: An

interesting ceremony took place at the

White House on Tuesday morning.

The occasion was the presentation to President

Lincoln of a truly beautiful and superb

work of sculpture, gathered from the

battle-fields of Gettysburg. The vase was

on exhibition at the great Sanitary Fair

held in June last in Philadelphia, and was

there subscribed for as a gift to the Pres-

ident. The committee appointed to effect

the presentation, all of whom were present

yesterday, were: Rev. Wm. B. Eddards, D.

D., of Grace Episcopal Church; Rev. E.

W. Hatter, of St. Matthews Lutheran

Church; John W. Clapham, Esq., Manager

of J. M. McKim, Esq., of the Clapham

and Mrs. E. W. Hatter and Miss

Reverend E. Clapham, all Philadelphians.

Rev. Dr. Eddards made the presenta-

tion address, and the President responded

as follows:

Reverend sir, and ladies and gentlemen,

I accept, with emotions of profound grati-

tude, the beautiful gift you have been

pleased to present to me. You will, of

course, expect that I acknowledge it. So

much has been said about Gettysburg, and

so well said, that for me to attempt to say

more, may perhaps, only serve to weaken

the force of that which has already been

said. A most graceful and eloquent tribu-

te was paid to the patriotism and self-

denying labors of the American ladies on

the occasion of the consecration of the Na-

tional Cemetery at Gettysburg, by our

illustrious friend Edward Everett, now,

dear ladies, departed from us. His life was

truly great one, and, I think, the greatest

part of it was that which crowned its

closing years. I wish you to read, if you

have not already done so, the glowing and

eloquent and truthful life of this noble

man, which I have the honor to recom-

mend to you. For your kind wishes to

me personally I leave to your own

kindness, my sincerest thanks. I assure

you they are reciprocated. And now, gen-

tlemen and ladies, may God bless you all!

Why Thresh is Dear.

In the good old times, before the days of

prohibitory tariffs, the price of spool cotton

was as low in this country as in England.

Notwithstanding the advance in cotton, the

retail price in England is still two pence

(2d.) a spool for the best thread, or only

four cents in American coin. Making due

allowance for the rise in exchange, a spool

of thread would not cost more than nine

cents, if it were not for the excessive tariff.

Insurance.

STATEMENT

Condition of the North American Fire

Insurance Company of Hartford.

On the 31st day of December, 1864, made to the

Board of Directors, pursuant to the Statute of that

State.

NAME AND LOCATION.

The North American Fire Insurance

Company, Hartford, Conn.

CAPITAL.

The amount of its Capital Stock, \$1,000,000

paid up, 300,000 00

ASSETS.

Cash of the Company on hand, and in

the hands of Agents and other persons,

\$36,620 00

Real Estate owned by the Company, (as per

Return made to the State, and as per

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